E-Basin Update

A Publication of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Inland Empire Utilities Agency
A MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

April 2010

Renew and Recycle

Serving the Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana, Montclair, Ontario and Upland, as well as Monte Vista and Cucamonga Valley Water Districts.

Inland Empire Utilities Agency Receives Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended 2008/09.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

"I want to thank IEUA's Finance and Accounting staff for their effort and dedication to excellence," stated IEUA's CEO/General Manager, Richard W. Atwater. "Because of these dedicated professionals IEUA has maintained 12 consecutive years of excellence in financial reporting."

The GFOA is a non-profit professional association serving approximately 16,000 government finance professionals.

Students of Montclair High School Build Environmental Model

On April 16, 2010, Montclair High School students debuted their environmental model at the Chino Basin Water Conservation District's Earth Day Event. The Environmental Model demonstrates water quality, conservation, percolation and groundwater storage, pollution, runoff, storm water capture, as well as how a group of students can work together and build a hugely wise educational tool.

In the Event, Montclair High School students demonstrated how the model works to over 1,000 fifth graders. The fifth graders learned how pollution is caused and how it can affect the water supply.

This project was achieved through a partnership with the city of Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, and the Santa Ana Watershed Association.

Follow Link for article in the Daily Bulletin:
http://www.dailybulletin.com/search/1,1,4903065%2DD+Search-www.dailybulletin.com-www.dailybulletin.com

Water Conservation Tip:
Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks and patios and save 8-18 gallons of water per minute. Wash cars/boats with a bucket , sponge and hose with self-closing nozzle and save 8-18 gallons of water per minute.

Upcoming Events

May 5: ***Compost Giveaway***
IEUA, HQ A Parking Lot
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m

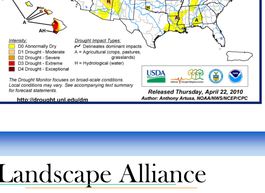
May 14-16: ***Solar Cup 2010***
Lake Skinner

May 15: ***A Dog Day in the Park***
Chino Basin Water Conservation District
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

May 18: ***WEWAC Public Service Announcement Awards Ceremony***
Frontier Project
6:00 a.m.

U.S. Drought Monitor

April 20, 2010
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Drought - Severe
D3 Drought - Extreme
D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:
/// Delineates dominant impacts
A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
H = Hydrological (water)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

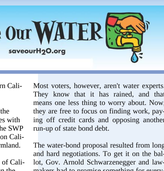
Released Thursday, April 22, 2010
Author: Anthony Artusa, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/usdm

Drought Summary

No changes were made to the drought depiction in California. The D2 area in far northeastern California received little if any precipitation, while the precipitation further south started near or just after 5 am PDT, April 20th and will be accounted for in the next Drought Monitor.

Landscape Alliance



http://www.ieua.org/alliance.html

Desert is Oasis For Homeowner Carlson
By Sandra Barrera, Staff Writer
Sunset magazine
April 16, 2010

Pat Carlson's curvy front yard looks like a desert landscape.

A picturesque mingling of color and texture - boulders, golden decomposed granite and light green and dark brown crushed rock with drought -thriving plants, such as agave, redbud tree and kangaroo paws - are what the Thousand Oaks homeowner and her landscaping/design team of Anthony Marshall and Mark Matthews decided to go for.

"It just seemed like a waste to be pouring so much water on grass," Carlson says, adding her 3,000-square-foot 1960 contemporary-style home was surrounded by lawn until last summer when she decided to relandscape. "Now it looks like I'm living in Tucson."

Carlson's desert garden is now one of five stops on the 37th Annual Garden & Patio Tour, a scholarship fundraiser sponsored by the West-lake Village Garden Club. The self-guided tour, on April 25, offers visitors the chance to stroll through well-kept gardens in a variety of styles.

"We try to showcase gardens that people would be inspired by," says Lovita Vandenberg, co-chair of the tour recalling a cottage garden from two years ago that resonated with her for its chickens, water features and beautiful pathways. "Right now the big focus is on drought-tolerant gardens because of our water situation."

In the backyard of Carlson's home, there's a small patch of grass that flows into a colorful mosaic of ice plants, including flowering dedum and Senecio. She also grows vegetables and enjoys photographing visitors in her butterfly garden and a newly installed bird garden, with birdbath, feeders and colorful plants such as Heliotrope, yarrow and bluish-gray Artemisia. One side of her house features 40-year-old poinsettia plants.

But what you won't see in Carlson's garden is cactus. As she puts it, "I tried to avoid thorny things and go more with succulents like agaves and aloes and cute little ones.

"I wanted it to be sparse because the desert is."

For more information, visit:
http://www.dailybulletin.com

Pat Carlson's Water-Wise Garden
Photo Taken By Andy Holzman/Staff Photographer
Provided by Sunset Magazine

DWR Raises 2010 Water Delivery Projection
By The Department of Water Resources
Contact: Ted Thomas, Chief Public Information Officer, DWR
April 23, 2010

Mountain snowpack raises allocation to 30 percent.

Sacramento - - -Citing April's wintry Sierra storms, the department of Water Resources (DWR) today increased its 2010 allocation of State Water project deliveries to 30 percent.

"The spring storms have been good to California's snowpack, allowing us to increase our water deliveries to communities, farms and businesses this year," said DWR Director Mark Cowin. "Still, three years of drought, low reservoir storage and regulatory limits on Delta pumping to protect fish keep our allocations far below average and underscore the need for ongoing conservation across the state."

The SWP allocation had been set at 20 percent of contractors' requests earlier in April. The initial 2010 allocation estimate, made back in December 2009, was 5 percent. That projection rose incrementally as snowpack accumulated during winter and early spring. Later in May, DWR expects to make a final allocation announcement.

Electronic snow surveys indicate that statewide, water content in the mountain snowpack is 132 percent of normal for the date. Electronic readings may be found at http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/iemp/DLYSWEQ

A final manual snow survey will be conducted on April 30.

Lake Oroville in Butte County, the key Northern California storage reservoir for the State Water project (SWP), remains low, at 55 percent of capacity, recovering slowly after three consecutive dry years.

Reservoir storage levels may be found at http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/reservoirs/RES

Fishery agency restrictions on Delta pumping continue to limit amounts of water that can be delivered to SWP contractors serving the Bay Area, San Joaquin Valley, Central Coast and Southern California.

In 2009, the SWP delivered 40 percent of the amount requested by the 29 public agencies with long-term contracts to buy SWP water. The SWP contractors deliver water to about 25 million Californians and 750,000 acres of irrigated farmland.

DWR, in partnership with the Association of California Water Agencies, will continue to run the Save Our Water program. The program, which was created by Gov. Schwarzenegger's 2009 drought declaration, aims to educate Californians about easy ways to conserve water indoors and outdoors. Visit the web site at www.saveourh2o.org

For more information visit:
http://www.water.ca.gov/newsroom/archive/2010/04232010publicallocation.pdf

Rain May Actually Hurt State Water Bond
By Bill McEwen, The Fresno Bee
April 26, 2010

From a foothill view above Pine Flat Dam, the spring rain is beautiful. Fast-moving dark clouds appear. The heavens open. Water collects in fast-rising creeks and tumbles into the lake. Farmers rejoice.

But the salvation brought by this year's bountiful rain will soon give way to political reality. As cruel as it might sound, backers of the much-needed $11 billion state water bond on the November ballot needed another bone-dry year to win over voters.

The experts say that a wet year, by itself, doesn't mark the end of a drought. They say that this could be a mere reprieve in a long drought, and the condition of California's complex water system can't be assessed simply by measuring rain or the Sierra snowpack over a single year.

Most voters, however, aren't water experts. They know that it has rained, and that means one less thing to worry about. Now, they are free to focus on finding work, paying off credit cards and opposing another run-up of state bond debt.

The water-bond proposal resulted from long and hard negotiations. To get it on the ballot, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and lawmakers had to promise something for everybody.

The farmers got money for dams. The environmentalists got Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta restoration. And folks on the sidelines received sweeteners such as bike trails and watershed education centers.

But that's a lot of fodder for opponents. It either shouldn't include dams or doesn't have enough dams. Some people believe it will pave the way for a controversial peripheral canal generally opposed by Northern California interests. With its hefty price tag, other people -- particularly public employee unions -- say that taxpayers can't afford the bond.

A fourth year of drought, rationing and water rate hikes would've commanded public attention. Voters would've been more receptive to the reasons for passing the bond.

Without repairs to aging Delta levees, a major earthquake could cut off water for 25 million Californians for as a long as two years. The entire state economy --not just agriculture -- suffers because of reliance on a decaying water system built when California had half as many people as it has now. It's indisputable that the ecology of the delta is stressed and on the verge of collapse.

For complete article visit:
www.fresnobee.com

The Community Celebrates Earth Day

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency, in partnership with the City of Chino, held an Earth Day Event at the Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park in the City of Chino. The Park was funded partially by a grant from the State Water Resources Control Board. Over 400 community members attended the Event, which was held to provide information and activities focusing on water conservation, and environmental stewardship.

The Event included a water-wise show, over 25 vendors from different agencies and corporations providing giveaways and activities, 99.1 KGGI, a train giving tours of the park, and food provided by the Chino Kiwanis.

In addition to these Earth Day Events, a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held for the Garden in Every School® Demonstration Garden which was funded by a Green Works Grant from Project Learning Tree® awarded to the Santa Ana Watershed Association (SAWA) along with funding provided by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA). The Garden Project began October 2009, where over 50 volunteers dedicated their Saturdays to designing, planting and monitoring the garden project. The volunteers came from the community with a majority of them coming from Raney Intermediate School. In addition, a student art testimonial contest was held. The winners had their work placed on the signage around the garden. The goal of the Demonstration Garden is to manifest what a California Friendly® garden can look like. For those teachers who might be interested in applying for a Garden in Every School® Grant, the garden is a great place for them to see and understand the opportunities this type of garden holds for the students and the community.

Community and Agency Volunteers Participated in the Earth Day Event

ROTC Volunteers

(L to R) Manuel Carrillo-Senator M-Leal Rodriguez and Richard Atwater-CEO/GM IEUA

Volunteers along with Rich Atwater (IEUA) and Lucia Diaz (IEUA) Cut the Ribbon

Garden Project Leads: Andrew Kanaley (IEUA) and Dolly Aguirre (SAWA)

Volunteers Plant Vegetables as Part of the Ribbon Cutting Event

Train Rides Provided Tours of the Park--The Train Displayed Water Conservation Signs

99.1 KGGI Booth

Community members Checking In to Receive Their Reusable Bag and Map of the Park

Students Participating in Activities at Vendor Booth

A Group of Students From Kingsley Elementary School Walking Through the Park

IEUA Board of Directors

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Division 1: Upland/Montclair

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Richard W. Atwater
Chief Executive Officer
General Manager

A Community Making a Difference

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